A.4.2 Heliospheric Physics

1. Scope of Program

This program element supports research aimed at understanding:

- How the Sun accelerates the solar wind and causes temporal and spatial variability in the solar wind;
- The global dynamic character of the heliosphere and the local particles and fields processes from that change with distance and in three dimensions, in response to solar activity and rotation;
- How the Sun interacts with our galaxy, the Milky Way, including the solar modulation of galactic cosmic rays; and
- Acceleration and interaction of energetic particles in the solar corona and heliosphere.

This program specifically supports research projects involving data analysis, theory, simulation, and modeling directed towards the objectives of heliospheric science and energetic particles studies. In addition, up to ten percent of the available funding may be used to support preliminary studies of new instrumental techniques for heliospheric sciences, if warranted by proposal merit and relevance to the objectives of this program.

2. Programmatic Considerations

This program underwent comprehensive review in 1997, resulting in three-year awards that fully subscribe the available budget through Fiscal Year 2000. Therefore, new proposals are not solicited for this program element in this ROSS-99 NRA. Questions concerning the program element may be addressed to the discipline Scientist:

Dr. James C. Ling
Research Program Management Division
Code SR
NASA Headquarters
Office of Space Science
Washington DC 20546-0001
Telephone: (202) 358-0897
E-mail: jling@hq.nasa.gov